The Daily Star

Santana passes away

AFP, Brasilia

Former Brazil national coach Tele Santana died on Friday at the age of 74.

Santana coached Brazil at the 1982 and 1986 World Cup finals and also led Sao Paulo to the Copa Libertadores in 1992 and 1993.

He had spent 28 days in hospital in Belo Horizonte, in the south-east of the country, after being admitted complaining of an intestinal infection

Santana's Brazilian teams at the 1982 World Cup in Spain and at the 1986 edition in Mexico were regarded as favourites for the title boasting the mercurial talents of Zico and Socrates.

In particular, the 1982 side, which also included Junior. Cerezo and Falcao, was considered one of the finest Brazilian teams ever to take part in a World Cup

But they were beaten 3-2 by eventual champions Italy in their final pool game which denied them a place in the semifinals with Paolo Rossi grabbing all three goals.

As a player. Tele Santana spent most of his career at Fluminense. He had been in precarious health since 1996 when he suffered a stroke and in 2003, he had part of his left leg amputated.

Santana, born on June 26, 1931 in Itabirito, began his career as a goalkeeper before becoming a left-winger.

His career as a club manager started in 1967, coaching Fluminense before progressing to Atletico Mineiro, Gremio, Palmeiras, Al Ahly in Saudi Arabia, Flamengo and Sao Paulo. In 1992 and 1993, he also led Sao Paulo to the Intercontinental Cup.

Benitez in Mourinho dig

INTERNET, undated

Rafa Benitez claims Jose Mourinho would not have been a success at Chelsea without Roman Abramovich's financial backing.

Mourinho is on the brink of winning back-to-back titles at Stamford Bridge and has also lifted the Carling Cup during his Blues reign.

The Portuguese tactician has been given licence to spend Chelsea owner Roman Abramovich's money, splashing out big fees on the likes of Michael Essien and Shaun Wright-Phillips. But Mourinho's Liverpool counter-

part Benitez believes Chelsea's emergence as the team to beat is not due to the manager, but Abramovich. While Mourinho's managerial style

has drawn plaudits from several guarters, Benitez insists the key factor in The Blues' rise to the top is money.

"It's very simple, they have spent more money than anyone else on players," said Benitez. "Abramovich has done a fantastic job with his team. "After 50 years, they are winning two leagues and that's really good. "Jose Mourinho has done a good job, but for me the owner is the key. All of them are important, but you can't do anything without Abramovich and he started the revolution."



Arsenal striker Thierry Henry (R) celebrates his late equaliser against Tottenham Hotspur during their Premiership match at Highbury on Saturday.

dragged his cross-shot wide.

volley into his face.

de-netting

PREMIERSHIP

Honours even at Highbury Football

AFP, London Thierry Henry salvaged Arsenal's hopes of snatching fourth place in the Premiership as his late goal earned a 1-1 draw with Tottenham

here Saturday. The France striker came off the bench to cap a tumultuous afternoon with a beautiful equaliser in the 84th minute to keep Arsenal four points behind Spurs with a game in

> hand. That strike cancelled out Robbie Keane's hugely controversial opener for Spurs, the Irishman converting Edgar Davids's pass despite Arsenal's Emmanuel Eboue

lying injured. That sparked angry scenes on and off the pitch, although it was not the only talking point, as Davids was sent-off late on for two bookable offences

Spurs made a turbo-charged start, inspired largely by Aaron Lennon, whose pace and trickery tormented Arsenal's creaky back-

Team first for Dhoni PTI, New Delhi

Wednesday.

Explosive wicketkeeper-batsman Mahendra Singh Dhoni has said that contributing to the Indian Cricket team's victories was more important than reaching the top spot in one-day world rankings.

controversial goal

Arsenal expected either Carrick After 18 minutes, Mathieu Flamini was bamboozled by a slick or Davids to play the ball out after passing interchange between the Eboue was left stricken by Defoe's challenge, but the Dutchman teenager and Keane, but Lennon sprinted down the left and squared Seven minutes later, Lennon for the unmarked Keane to slide in a was causing havoc again, tearing simple goal

Wenger's players were furious past Philippe Senderos and slipping a pass to Jermain Defoe, who shot but the manager was equally apotamely at Jens Lehmann. The plectic, with stewards having to England striker gave the German come between him and Tottenham more to think about seconds later boss Martin Jol on the touchline. It when he smashed a close-range took almost three minutes for play to re-start as Spurs's pocket of sup-Arsenal were ragged. Shorn of porters celebrated

Henry, their attack lacked a focal Their joy was premature. In the point and they should have fallen 84th minute, Emmanuel Adebayor behind in first-half stoppage time capped a thrilling run with an exquiwhen Michael Carrick danced past site pass to Henry, who dinked a delightful shot with the outside of his Gilberto and Johan Djourou, rounded Lehmann but shot into the right-boot into the bottom corner.

Arsenal were inspired, but not even Davids's second yellow card for a lunge at Fabregas could stumbling off after being clattered by prompt a dramatic winner

Keane, and in the 62nd minute Wenger turned to his main artillery. On came Henry and Fabregas, but four minutes later Spurs were ahead courtesy of that hugely

Wenger's jittery mood was not

helped by the sight of Senderos

Large squads the solution

> "But there are two approaches that can be taken. [Firstly], key

believed their experience would

"We've seen in the past in

England, they'd use 20-plus players

in a series. Those days are gone

now. But it's a long time until the first

Test, and I'm sure those key players

will find themselves back on deck

horizon after the two bodies were

unable to reach an agreement on

the terms of players' retainer con-

tracts. With the Zimbabwe tour one

week away, the WICB's cricket

committee had recommended

process. "I am telling our cricketers

that in human relations, the ability

to pay is important and everyone

knows that the West Indies Cricket

Board is not endowed with a lot of

money." he stressed. "I am sin-

cerely praying that this weekend as

the boys meet that they will do the

right thing and make sure that we

see cricket at the highest level."

contract issue to be settled.

before then.

have been largely beneficial.

squads."

Milan suffer triple injury

REUTERS, Milan

SPORT

AC Milan's preparations for Wednesday's Champions League semifinal return at Barcelona suffered a blow with three players picking up injuries in the first half of their Serie A match at Messina. Brazilian Kaka and Italy defender

Alessandro Nesta were both substituted with injuries and then midfielder Massimo Ambrosini, who had replaced Kaka, also had to go off in the 28th minute of Saturday's match.

Milan were already without striker Filippo Inzaghi who has been struggling to recover from a virus which kept him out of the 1-0 first-leg defeat at the San Siro. It was not immediately clear how

serious any of the three injuries were

Zidane to retire

PHOTO AFI

AFP, Madrid

World Cup winner Zinedine Zidane is almost certain to announce his retirement after the World Cup during a press conference on Wednesday, radio station Cadena Ser claimed on Friday. Zidane, who still has one year

left on his contract at Real, has already announced his international retirement at the end of the finals in July, but he previously left a question mark over whether or not he would continue in club football for the last year of his

Now, according to Cadena, he has called a press conference to finally put an end to the uncer-

"Real Madrid's French midfielder Zinedine Zidane has summoned the media to give a press conference next Wednesday during which he will almost certainly announce his retirement from the football world," reported Cadena

his boots and will pass on the last year of his contract," added the station which is renowned for its accurate reporting of transfer and

Real Madrid confirmed a press conference will take place at the club's training ground at 1100GMT on Wednesday.

man of French football, will be 34 on June 23, during the World Cup finals, and has been contemplating his future for some time. He recently confided in

last challenge at such a high level.

"I have one more year on my

Eriksson positive over injuries

BBC ONLINE, undated

England coach Sven-Goran Eriksson is confident four key players will recover from injury in time for the World Cup.

Michael Owen. Sol Campbell. Ashley Cole and Ledley King have been sidelined, but Eriksson is happy with the progress they are making with their injuries.

Arsenal duo Cole and Campbell, plus Newcastle's Owen, will play before the end of the season. Eriksson hinted Spurs defender

King is the biggest doubt, but is refusing to rule him out of the finals. Defender Cole had played just once in six months before a reserve team outing this week, but Eriksson is relieved to see him on the mend. The Swede added: "Ashlev Cole played during this week in a reserve game which Tord Grip and I went to

INTERNET, undated see and he will be OK, I am sure of In a blow to soccer fans intent on that. exchanging World Cup tickets on "I wanted to see him play the black market, the German

because I don't know when he is going to play again next. He looks fit and I think he took it easy in the first game

ticket holders void. If I had not seen any of them play in the last four or five months it their personalized World Cup tickets would be very difficult for me to pick without going through the official them DFB or FIFA channels will find their

"He's a guick healer and getting in form very quickly so I'm very confident for him.

favour of the German soccer body. Owen, who broke his foot at Spurs on New Year's Eve, is close to soccer fan Björn Kracht bought two

BITS AND BOBS

DHAKA SUNDAY APRIL 23, 2006

the Newcastle squad to face West Bromwich Albion. He added: "Of course we want to

try as hard as we can to take Michael Owen with us to the World Cup. He's our best goalscorer without any doubt. King is now out for the rest of the

season with a broken foot sustained against Everton He is the most doubtful of the

happening.

The court ruled in favour of the quartet for the tournament in DFB, upholding its right to reject Germany but Eriksson remains such transfers on the basis that the optimistic. original ticket holder could have

Eriksson added: "I don't think returned the tickets if they were not anyone is quite sure yet if he will wanted available or not. It's a stress fracture Heinze on course but it's a good one the doctors tell

INTERNET, undated "I had a meeting with our doctor so we have to wait and see what's Gabriel Heinze played for over an

hour of Manchester United's reserve team win at Aston Villa on Ticket exchange Saturday. banned by court The Argentinian is battling to

force his way back into Jose Pekerman's World Cup squad after being out of first team action since

rupturing knee ligaments against Villarreal back in September. Sir Alex Ferguson is backing the

World Cup tickets online in

September for 880 euros (1.087

dollars), eight times their original

price. The tickets contained the

personal information of the original

owner and the DFB refused at the

time to transfer the tickets to the

name of the new purchaser, prompt-

ing the original ticket holder to file a

lawsuit against the federation.

South American's bid to play in Germany and fielded the defender in the crunch reserve fixure as United's table-toppers took on second-placed Villa at Tamworth's Lamb Stadium.

Heinze gave an outstanding performance at centre back for 68 minutes, although he was grateful to keeper Luke Steele for pulling off a good stop after his one slip-up during a typically all-action display.

Juve lose more ground

Soccer Federation (DFB) won a

court ruling Thursday that will make

unofficial transactions between

Supporters who attempt to sell

transactions vetoed after a

Frankfurt regional court ruled in

The case came to light after

Gennaro Gattuso and Alberto Gilardino giving them victory in a name which included four red cards -three of them for Messina In less than a month Juve have

allowed their lead to be slashed from 10 points to the current slim advantage giving Milan coach Carlo Ancelotti hope. "The championship is still alive

and we have three games to see if we can overtake Juventus," said the Milan coach.

"We have to try and get three wins to finish well and to reach the maximum of our possibilities," added Ancelotti whose side face Barcelona in the return leg of their Champions League semifinal in Spain on Wednesday, trailing 1-0.

Juventus, who have not won AC since their elimination from the Inte Champions League by Arsenal, Fio continue to observe a ban on talking ASE to the press imposed by the club's l az management.

At the foot of the table. Lecce became the second team to go down to Serie B after their 1-1 draw at home to already-relegated Treviso.

Fourth-placed Fiorentina took a step towards a return to the Champions League with their 2-1 win over Empoli allowing them to move three points ahead of fifth-placed AS Roma who were held to a goalless draw at home to Sampdoria.

Fiorentina have 68 points with Roma on 65.

Т	SIX						
Team	Р	w	D	L	G/F	G/A	Pts
Juventus	35	24	10	1	64	23	82
AC Milan	35	25	4	6	78	28	79
Inter Milan	35	23	5	7	65	26	74
Fiorentina	35	20	8	7	59	38	68
AS Roma	35	18	11	6	64	36	65
Lazio	35	13	14	8	51	46	53

current deal

tainty over his career.

"The Frenchman will hang up

second placed AC Milan kept up the contract speculation pressure with a 3-1 win at Messina. Juventus have 82 points, with Milan on 79 and third-placed Inter Milan who beat Reggina 4-0, on 74 points.

Zidane, for so long the talis-

German sports magazine Kicker that the World Cup would be his

Milan came from behind with goals from Marek Jankulovski,

off.

a comeback after being named in Serie A

The Serie A title race came alive on

Saturday as Juventus had their lead

cut to three points after being held to

a 1-1 draw at home by Lazio and

With three matches remaining

Juve needed an 86th minute goal

Tomasso Rocchi had put Lazio

from French striker David Trezeguet

ahead in the 29th minute but Lazio

played the final 55 minutes of the

game with 10 men after their French

midfielder Ousmane Dabo was sent

to get their fifth successive draw.

Football

REUTERS, Milan

Benitez feels the expectation is on his opponents to reach the FA Cup final that was to take place on Saturday.

He added: "They have a lot of good players, so they must be at the top of the table and they must be in cup finals

"When you spend big money, it's normal to be at the top of the table and in finals."

Tigers summon FROM PAGE 12

Lankan-born Australian.

Australian captain Ricky Ponting's approach was rather clinical

"I'm looking forward to the start of this series and I expect the wicket to be good for batting. I've spoken to the team about the need to start this series well and to be physically and mentally prepared for the game," he said

"We've given a debut to Dan Cullen and with Brad Hogg, Andrew Symonds and Michael Clarke in the team, we have plenty of spin options," he added.

TEAMS

BANGLADESH: Habibul Bashar (captain), Shahriar Nafees, Rajin Saleh, Mohammad Ashraful, Aftab Ahmed, Alok Kapali, Khaled Mashud, Mohammad Rafique, Mashrafee Bin Mortuza, Syed Rasel and Abdur Rzzak.

AUSTRALIA (from): Ricky Ponting (captain), Simon Katich, Adam Gilchrist, Michael Clarke, Michael Hussey, Andrew Symonds, James Hopes, Brad Hogg, Brett Lee, Nathan Bracken and Mitchell Johnson and Dan Cullen.

Ponting wants FROM PAGE 12

the home side over the three matches will be a major achievement.

Ricky Ponting's touring line-up is 13 points clear of their nearest challengers, South Africa, in that table with third-placed India a further three points back, while Bangladesh lie in 10th place, 18 points adrift of Zimbabwe, the side immediately above it.

CRICINFO, undated The Jharkhand man displaced

Ricky Ponting from the top of ICC ODI batsmen's rankings after his half-century in the second and final cricket one-dayer against Pakistan in Abu Dhabi on "Ranking does not matter. The

team is more important. As long as my contributions lead to the team's victories, it is more important than the top ranking," he said. "It's a pleasure for me to achieve the top ranking in a short span of 16 months. It really means have done something to reach the top spot in such a short time,"

he was quoted as saying by a website. The 24-year-old said he had to keep performing if he wanted to

enjoy the top ranking for a longer period. "It's a good feeling and I hope

to keep performing in the near future. If you want to stay in the team you need to keep performing," he said.

Dhoni has proved himself as a key member of the Indian cricket team. In 42 one-dayers, he has scored 1372 runs at an average of 52.76 and an amazing strike-rate of 103.

He said it was unfair to compare him with his Australian counterpart Adam Gilchrist.

"Gilchrist has proved himself consistently over a long period of time. I have played only 16 months of international cricket. Hence, I think that the comparison cannot be justified. I just hope that people can recognise me as Dhoni only," he added said.

Kakordia, Achmita

FROM PAGE 12 scoring the second treble of the day against Kashipur High School.

Meanwhile, the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF0 has expelled three schools from the competition as they did not turn up for the opening day's games on Friday.

The schools are Abdul Hamid High School of Chittagong, Kakarda MK Secondary School of Barisal and Shaheed Ramijuddin Cantonment School and College of Dhaka.

The BFF has also decided to recommend to the Education Ministry to take action against all the schools to forfeit their matches.

Sri Lanka's coach, Tom Moody, has added his voice to the growing debate about player burnout, and believes that international teams will soon have to head down the route adopted by the football Premiership,

with larger squads and more rotation of players. After a whirlwind campaign that has encompassed trips to Australia, Bangladesh and a home series in Pakistan, Sri Lanka have arrived in England for three Tests, five oneday internationals and a Twenty20 match

"It's a difficult thing to avoid," conceded Moody, as he spoke to and going, it's harder to get momenthe press at Sri Lanka's team hotel tum. in northwest London

"You want your key players all the time, but the players are under enormous pressure, and it's one of those things you face. You have to accept that the best players may not play in every game of a series.

Hall's appeal

to cricketers

"It's a thing being addressed by the ICC and it's out of our control. he added

Wes Hall, the former West Indies

fast bowler and West Indies Cricket

Board (WICB) president, has urged

the current national players to find

a quick solution to the looming

project entitled 'Cricket Legends of

Barbados', Hall said in finding a

solution, the players needed to

consider what cricket meant to the

that we have right now on the eve

of the World Cup. I wish to tell all

players not to lose the public's

support," he said. "After all, cricket

is of the people, for the people and

by the people in the West Indies

and it belongs to the people," the

ex-West Indies fast bowler told a

gathering of past cricketing greats

including Sir Vivian Richards, Sir

Garry Sobers, Richie Richardson

Another impasse between the

and Courtney Walsh.

"I note with disgust the impasse

Speaking at the launch of a

CRICINFO, undated

contract predicament.

region.

contract with Real Madrid unti players can be rested for periods of 2007. I will take a decision in the year if the calendar stays the peace and quite," he said. same, but squads have got to get

bigger, [just] like is happening in **Gibbs gets** soccer in this country. The more soccer they play, the bigger the shocking England experienced the problems of fixture overload this winter, omission when their players started dropping like flies in India, but Moody

BBC ONLINE, Undated South Africa have dropped experi-

"Put it this way, England are enced batsman Herschelle Gibbs selecting from a bigger pool of for the two remaining Tests in their players this summer than last sumhome series against New Zealand. mer, and that is an advantage. Even He made only six and two in so, when you've got a settled side, the first Test at Centurion Park. a you know each other's game inside game South Africa won by 128 out, but when people are coming runs.

Hashim Amla may replace Gibbs for the second Test, which starts on Thursdav

It would be Amla's first opportunity since the home series against England over a year ago and a reward for domestic form, which saw him score over 890 runs in the Supersport Series at an average of 55

South Africa have also left seam bowler Garnett Kruger out of the squad for the Tests at Cape Town and Johannesburg. He had been in line to win his first

cap in the opening game against New Zealand but a shoulder strain put paid to his chances. New Zealand, meanwhile, have

called up seam bowler Michael Mason to provide cover for Shane Bond, who missed the first Test because of a knee problem. WICB and the West Indies Players Association (WIPA) appears on the SQUAD

G Smith (capt), J Kallis, B Dippenaar, A Prince, AB de Villiers, J Rudolph, H Amla, M Boucher (wkt), S Pollock, N Boje, A Hall, M Ntini, D Steyn, A Nel

yesterday as a cut-off date for the Azzu set FROM PAGE 12

Malik lashed out at the Pakistan cricket authorities, accusing them of double standards.

"I have nothing to do with who is playing and who is not, but it's disappointing that there are dual policies in cricket," Malik told AFP.

"It's unfortunate that my career to play at seniors' level," he said.

Sialkot (April 25), Sheikhupura (April 27) and Lahore on April (30).

Shearer ends career

Football

AFP, Newcastle

ACROSS

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1 Jab

Veteran Newcastle captain Alan Shearer confirmed Saturday that his career has been finished by a knee injury

The 35-year-old tore his knee ligaments at Sunderland on Monday and has been ruled out for the rest of the season, prompting his planned retirement.

The former England striker had planned to retire at the end of this season

"That's it. It's all over." Shearer told the Sun.

"There's a tear in the medial ligament which, although it does not require an operation, means I will be in a knee brace for a few weeks.

enne

out

there

lized

page

"Deep down I knew when I Shearer joined Newcastle from limped out of the Stadium of Light Blackburn for a then record 15 million that it was probably the end and L think the fans knew it as well. They know I don't stav down unless I'm badly hurt.

"It's disappointing, but I've got no regrets. I've had a great career.

Shearer had scored his 206th Newcastle goal from the penalty spot shortly before limping off in that win at Sunderland

In all he scored 379 goals in 733 club appearances in an 18-year career which started at Southampton and also took in a high-profile spell at Blackburn. He also netted 30 times in 63 appearances for England.

His legendary status at Newcastle was confirmed in February when he overtook Jackie Milburn to become the club's alltime leading goalscorer.

pounds in 1996 but his only major honour came when he won the Premiership with Rovers in 1995. Shearer added: "My dream as a kid was to play for Newcastle United

and to score goals at St James Park. It doesn't matter that I didn't win a trophy because I did it my way and I lived the dream. "Unless you come from the area

vou wouldn't understand that mentality. Plaving for the club is everything. I broke Jackie's record and no one can take that away from me. I've never had any regrets.

"I'm finished now and I have great memories. The fact I won't be able to play the last three games is disappointing but I'm not complaining. How could I?

By Eugene Sheffer CROSSWORD 36 World-DOWN 19 Honest weary 1 Elite politician' 37 Legend 21 Posalterna ary jazz tive sessed **23** 37musician 2 Muscat's 40 Comediland Across 3 Mideast instru-Martha plateau ment 41 Pearl's 24 Gear dweller 4 Gist house? teeth 45 Some 5 Bugs 25 Elbow Bunny's where counter voice part 26 Bric-a 6 1950s 47 Uncivi Dem. 27 Hurry candidate 28 Pro-49 Glitch 7 Drop nounce on the 8 Leger an H 32 Provincial demain 50 Carry 9 Big sovereigr 51 Eggs constric-33 Stretchy 52 Rainbov tor 35 Firma-53 Encounter 10 Dement 54 Longing 36 Turkish pressed ОН 55 Caesar 11 Sauid title 38 Insertion co-star squirt mark Solution time: 25 mins. 39 Comic actor Atkinson 42 Novice 43 Grandscale tale 44 Parks or Bonheur 45 \$



18 Re llamas territory 20 Stylish

Hall, who played 48 Tests between 1958 and 1969, said the WICB was in a financial crisis and this was a factor that had to be considered in the negotiating

came to an abrupt end and my appeal against the life ban is still pending. I demand that I be allowed Indian Seniors' first match is here on Sunday, followed by matches in